



BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA

## A PROCLAMATION

### GET OUTDOORS GEORGIA MONTH

- WHEREAS: This year the Parks, Recreation & Historic Sites Division of the Georgia Department of Natural Resources celebrates its 85<sup>th</sup> anniversary; and
- WHEREAS: Georgia is home to 63 state parks that attract as many as 8 million visitors per year. Visitors to state parks contributed \$610,251,636 to the state's economy last year; and
- WHEREAS: This year the National Park Service celebrates 100 years of stewardship of America's national parks. In recognition, the National Park Service will engage communities through recreation, conservation, and historic preservation programs; and
- WHEREAS: Georgia is also home to a number of National Parks Service sites, with 7,491,109 visitors annually contributing \$378,000,000 to the state's economy through visits to unique treasures such as the Chattahoochee National Recreation Area and the Cumberland Island National Seashore; and
- WHEREAS: Since 1965, the National Park Service has partnered with communities in Georgia and provided \$84,634,224 in Land and Water Conservation Fund grants to maintain a legacy of high-quality public outdoor recreation opportunities; and
- WHEREAS: The goal of the National Park Service's Centennial Celebration is to connect with and nurture the next generation of park visitors, supporters, and advocates, including encouraging individuals and families to take advantage of our country's natural wonders and iconic sites as part of the "Find Your Park" initiative; and
- WHEREAS: The National Park Service celebrated National Park Week April 16-25 and in June we recognize Get Outdoors Georgia Month; now
- THEREFORE: I, NATHAN DEAL, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim June 2016 as Get Outdoors Georgia Month.

In witness thereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Executive Department to be affixed this 11<sup>th</sup> day of May in the year of our Lord two thousand sixteen.



*Nathan Deal*

GOVERNOR

ATTEST

*Chris W. Riley*

CHIEF OF STAFF